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September 2015

Alice Turner Curtis Correspondence

Alice Turner Curtis 1860-1958

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

Maine State Library

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CURTIS, ALICE TURNER

(Mrs. Irving Curtis)

August 27, 1946

Mrs. Alice Turner Curtis
145 Warren Street
Needham, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Curtis:

For some time it has troubled us that the only book of yours in the Maine Author Collection is the delightful A LITTLE MAID OF OLD MAINE.

You may recall that this is a permanent exhibit of inscribed presentation books written by Maine people. It has increased impressively during its years, and is of great interest and value to visitors and students. We also collect and preserve biographical information, pictures, reviews, and correspondence, thus forming a really important exhibit.

We hope you may share our regret that your other books are not on these shelves, and we hope that you may want to inscribe and present these other titles for the Maine Author Collection. Such an addition would give us great pleasure, and the collection great distinction.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

145 Warren Street
Needham 92
Mass.

August 30th 1945

My dear Mrs. Jacob -

Thank you very much for your pleasant note regarding my books - and if it were possible at this time to send you copies of them I would be most happy to comply with your suggestion - but, alas, many of them are now out of print.

Alfred A. Knopf - the present publisher, - assures me that when conditions as to paper - etc - improve he intends to publish a new edition of "The Little Maid" series - (34 volumes) "The Yankee Girls" (10 volumes) and "The Frontier Girls" (4 volumes.)

My only novel - "A Challenge to Adventure" - has had a brief success - and my early volumes into print - stories for younger children. I enclose a "circular" - which may interest you -

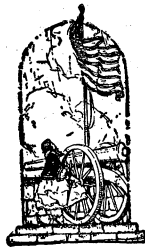
Very truly yours

Alice Turner Curtis

(Mrs. Irving Curtis)

The Little Maid
Historical Books

The
Yankee Girl Books
and Other Titles



BY ALICE TURNER CURTIS

The Penn Publishing
Company Philadelphia

THE LITTLE MAID HISTORICAL BOOKS

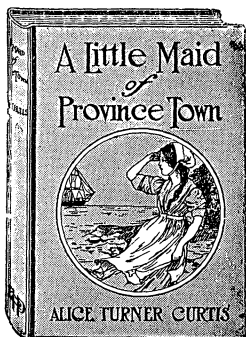
STORIES of various episodes in the history of Colonial America. Each book deals with a different phase and section of the country. The plots, based upon actual happenings, feature individual heroines. The stories are complete in each volume. Famous characters are introduced in the natural way that might have happened during those stirring days.

The books are printed in large type. They are the most popular set of books for young girls in print. Many of them are on the list recommended by the American Library Association. They are indicated by †.

ILLUSTRATED

PRICE EACH, \$1.50

THE LITTLE MAID HISTORICAL BOOKS



† *A Little Maid of Province Town*

Anne Nelson's father is thought to be a traitor. She goes to seek him and finds him serving in the army as a loyal patriot.

A Little Maid of Massachusetts Colony

The heroine lives on Cape Cod during the Revolution. She is locked up as a Tory spy. After her release she meets Samuel Adams and hears the Declaration of Independence read.

† *A Little Maid of Narragansett Bay*

Penelope Balfour with her brother Tod in their little boat "Freedom" intercept a message to the British frigate. Later she is entrusted with an order that may lead to the capture of an English General.

A Little Maid of Bunker Hill

Millicent Austin lived at Charles Town near Bunker Hill. She helped to arouse the Minute Men on the night of Paul Revere's famous ride.

THE LITTLE MAID HISTORICAL BOOKS



A Little Maid of Ticonderoga

Another "Little Maid" living during those days when the deeds of American Patriots were stirring the world. As a background the story recounts the exploits of Ethan Allen.

† *A Little Maid of Old Connecticut*

Ellen Elizabeth Barlow traveled through Connecticut during those troublous days of 1777. A mysterious package from a Tory prisoner was slipped into her hat box but Governor Trumbull absolved her from blame.

† *A Little Maid of Old Philadelphia*

Ruth Pennell lived in the "Red City" when the British Army were its masters. Her father was at Valley Forge. Ruth overheard two enemy soldiers talking and she carried the information to the Revolutionary forces.

THE LITTLE MAID HISTORICAL BOOKS

A Little Maid of Old Maine

A true story of the brave efforts of two girls to bring help to a settlement on the Maine coast. They journeyed through the forest carrying the powder that was to repulse America's foe.

A Little Maid of Old New York

New York in Colonial times was not the great city of the new world, but it was very important and many battles were fought nearby. This "little maid" becomes involved in the trouble and plays a gallant part.

A Little Maid of Old Virginia

Two girls whose homes were near Yorktown became entangled in the British spy system. They witnessed Cornwallis' surrender and there saw Washington, Lafayette, Rochambeau, Von Steuben and Knox.

A Little Maid of Maryland

Barbara Anne lived in Maryland during the time of the Colonies' resistance to taxation. Her brother's sympathies were with the British, but she managed to win him over to the side of the Americans.

A Little Maid of Mohawk Valley

Desperate fighting took place in the region of Mohawk Valley during the Revolution. The heroine proves her courage and resourcefulness, in those trying days.

THE LITTLE MAID HISTORICAL BOOKS

A Little Maid of Monmouth

Bee Marsh lived in New Jersey in 1778. She learns of the intentions of the British commander and succeeds in conveying this information to General Washington, thus materially assisting the cause of the Colonists.

A Little Maid of Nantucket

Prissie Fowler lived in Nantucket at the time that the British vessels were harassing the small Nantucket fishing boats. Her fear for her father's safety spurs her on to do many brave deeds in the behalf of the Americans.
(in press)

THE YANKEE GIRL BOOKS

Stories, like those of the Little Maids, dealing with different heroines. The books take a non-partisan view of the Civil War, using the events in their true historical significance.

A Yankee Girl at Fort Sumter

Sylvia Fulton, a little Boston girl, was staying at Charleston just before the opening of the Civil War. She became deeply attached to the people she met and the firing on Fort Sumter did not destroy this affection.

A Yankee Girl at Bull Run

The exploits of a northern girl in Virginia. She meets President Davis, and helps a Yankee soldier. The great Battle of Bull Run is one episode of the story.

THE YANKEE GIRL BOOKS

A Yankee Girl at Shiloh

Bernice Arnold went with her father and mother to Tennessee. Here she managed to help the northern troops and was thanked by General Grant. Her information had a direct bearing on the Battle of Shiloh.

A Yankee Girl at Antietam

Roxana, the Yankee girl living in Maryland, helps a northern soldier to escape. She goes to the hospitals after the Battle of Antietam and entertains the wounded soldiers by means of her "paper circus."

A Yankee Girl at Gettysburg

While the armies of the North and South were locked in the desperate three days' struggle, in that decisive moment in the life of the country, a northern girl was doing her share to aid in the final peace.

A Yankee Girl at Vicksburg

This book gives an interesting and authentic picture of the battle of Vicksburg and the events leading up to it. It shows that even a little girl can play a big part in War.

(in press)

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ALICE TURNER CURTIS



Mrs. Curtis lives in Boston, and is one of the most popular authors of books for children. She says:

“**W**HEN I was a little girl, just as far back as I can remember, I thought that a book was the dearest possession in the world.

“The Damariscotta River, Maine, is the river of which I write in ‘Grandpa’s Little Girl’s House Party,’ and there really are wonderful shell heaps at one place on its banks, and people come long distances to look at them, and scientific men have many theories as to their origin.”

Along with her other stories, Mrs. Curtis has written:

The Grandpa’s Little Girls Books—6 volumes
The Little Runaways Books
The Marjorie Books
The Outdoor Chums
Ted Gilman
Miss Ann and Jimmy

September 5, 1946

Mrs. Irving Curtis
145 Warren Street
Needham 92, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Curtis:

Thank you very much for your kind and firendly letter about your books. It is indeed distressing that so many titles have suffered the out-of-print fate for the same reason: printing, binding, paper restrictions. We can but hope that this unfortunate situation will not last much longer.

We shall hope to be able to locate your books, in either the earlier editions, or perhaps the new ones when they are again available. Bit by bit, we are trying to overcome the few omissions on the Maine Author Collection, and certainly your books should be here. As we do find the books, we hope you will be willing to have them sent for inscriptions.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection